

## Taplings Road play area questionnaire analysis

- I think Taplings Road park is rubbish, The equipment hasn't been well thought through, it is a bad design. The big climbing frame is pretty useless. I think if you had some really good equipment here for young children it would be really popular with the neighbourhood and families that use the community centre. Unfortunately dog walkers like to use the grass areas outside the enclosed park as a toilet. This would make a lovely extension of the park with football goals etc if only we didn't have to dodge poo everywhere. How can this be stopped?
- A path from the end of the alley from Rowlings Road across the Taplings Road field would be good. At the moment you can walk across the field where there can be dog poo.
- I like the older climbing units and trails to follow. We have just moved closer to Taplings park and will be using it more as can walk, will be on the school walk too in September. It will be great to have new play equipment and see it being kept up to date. Having the grass space is important too.
- Need more equipment for younger children, usually just 1 swing. The soft springy floor with colours is great too.
- Grandchildren and great grandchildren use Dean Park when they visit.
- Climbing frames, all type of swings, roundabout, rope swing, obstacle course. Climbing frames should be bigger and so should slides. My children filled this out with no input from either my wife or I. Best results are gained through end users and not always the adults.
- Scrap it and put in a splash park / sand park. Wiggly slide, helter skelter, sand pit, tree house / den.
- I had forgotten about Taplings Road because lack of equipment.
- Any thought to an outside gym so parents / grandparents can use them while their children are playing. Somewhere to put push bikes and pushchairs while they play. When up and running, seek community liaison officer to introduce themselves and promote positive links with the families and play area.
- I would definitely like to see equipment suitable for teenagers – there is a real need for outdoor spaces designed with them in mind. Sports equipment (football / basketball), fitness equipment and climbing equipment including adult height monkey bars would provide a great outdoor environment for them to escape from screens and let off steam. In all seriousness the monkey enclosures at Marwell Zoo have some great designs!
- Thanks for refurbishing this play area and consulting us, much appreciated.
- The slides are not slidey enough.
- I do not want the play area refurbished, the money should be spent on more important things like properly repairing the roads like the A30 and Wellhouse Lane they are dreadful road surfaces.

- Sporty area suitable for all ages that is beneficial to locals. Make more play areas suitable for 11+
- Current play equipment is pointless (main climbing centre) please do not replace with that brand again.
- For decades now our teenagers (13-18) have had nothing to do around the local area. There are plenty of park and activities for children aged (0-12) to attend and play but absolutely nothing for teens thus causing them to hang around shops causing a nuisance. If only someone somewhere would think of them and their needs. The square goals with no nets as St Matthews Field are not adequate let alone the correct shape!
- Good to know that the park is set to be improved, as a user of the community centre next to it this will really encourage more families to use the area.
- Safer play equipment for toddlers. Slide area equipment not suitable for toddlers.
- Lighting, maybe solar, to deter groups of youngsters gathering after dark. As a member of Weeke community centre which abuts the site we are aware that often syringes and other drug paraphernalia has been found in the play area. Lighting may help resolve this issue.
- Some equipment that ages 2-3 can use semi-independently (can climb themselves without being lifted). Don't tend to visit Taplings Park much due to poor equipment, litter etc. The grass was really long last time we went and no slide!
- A park that amuses children with better equipment and safer surroundings.
- All of the equipment at Olivers Battery is fun, easy to use and seems to appeal to a wide age range. The equipment at Southampton Common is wooden and very appealing.
- Not too age specific and natural materials where possible. We love Taplings Road play area for its location and space but are happy that the equipment is being replaced – it is not suitable for smaller children, looking forward to the improvements.
- I hope this park will be maintained and cleaned regularly. I have often had to pick up litter and bottles before use.
- The equipment at Taplings Road is too dated to warrant a visit even though it's our closest play park. We really enjoy the equipment at St Matthews Field as it suits our age group (4-10.)
- More swings. It is used more by 6-teens not babies. There is a martial arts group that uses the park on Tuesdays.
- Why don't you put football goals / basketball net at Dean Park – kids are always playing there but neither of these which both appeal to slightly older age group. Winchester has so little for our pre-teens (and teens!)

- Taplings Road park is run down and not as much choice of play equipment as other parks. Older children seem to congregate there. I prefer to go to parks where children of similar age are.
- Am very excited to hear this! Thank you in advance for taking care of the community!
- My son likes to work through each piece of equipment in a circuit so good layout is important for him. My daughter likes nautical themed equipment. Equipment which encourages imaginative games is good for my children because they get carried away and play for ages without realising that they are also getting loads of exercise. Generally I am pleased with the quality and amount of parks in Winchester and we've all been enjoying the Wonky trail.
- One reason we tend not to use Taplings Road play area is that it feels quite hidden away and is dated from other things – not in especially nice surroundings and not near anything else.
- I used this area with my daughter many years ago, I found it then too enclosed and preferred the play areas such as Bradley Road which is more open and now has been improved dramatically and we regularly use this area with our grandchildren. If the Taplings Road play area could be improved to this standard we would use it.
- Challenging items and those that support some sport rather than boring items. Taplings Road is the closest play area the children can visit with the removal of the football pitch for housing off Westman Road. The provision of suitable play equipment for young children in the 8-14 age bracket is pivotal to their development and confidence.
- A giant ball pit would be interesting.
- At Harestock climbing frame the steps are better for smaller children and disabled as the gaps aren't as wide so it's less dangerous. None of the parks I go to ever have enough benches. It would also be amazing for more bins / placed better. If this includes the grassed area maybe a massive fence protecting the park then a goalpost with net? When I was hanging around with youth workers years ago we took our own; it was great for all kids including those too old to play in the park. Need lots of bright colours.
- A great idea.
- Engaging equipment with a slight feeling of risk seems to entertain the most. It is always nice to include a large green area around a park for running around and trees are also a welcome addition.
- More children will use the park if equipment is better.
- There seems to be a lot of teenagers hanging around Taplings Road play park, an occasional visit from a PSO might help.
- Important that all ages feel comfortable using the space.
- Was not aware of St Matthews Field and assumed Taplings would be really busy so have not visited either.

- As much as the priority is play equipment for the children, an outdoor gym would be fabulous.
- We do not have children but it is a pleasant place for children to run around. I should like to see a stricter regime with dog fouling. We use the community centre but refrain from walking through there because of this.
- There is nothing wrong with this play area why is it being replaced? Why is council money being wasted replacing perfectly serviceable play equipment? Please stop wasting council money, this area in Taplings Road is perfectly good, I cannot believe it is being scrapped after such a short service time. This is wasteful!
- Adult play / exercise areas close by make it more likely I will accompany my child to the playground.
- My son loves skateboarding / trick biking but as there is nowhere in parish has done this on roads, pavements and car parks – far from ideal for anyone! Dean Lane is good for younger children. The teen boys need something to expend plenty of adrenaline on.
- Play areas need to be kept free of litter. This can be a problem in the playground in Bradley Road – I have often cleared up litter there myself.
- Our kids really love the current equipment and would prefer it to stay particularly the roundabout and the moving hand rail on the multiplay. Favourite piece of equipment is a maypole swing where you run around a pole holding a hanging handle and are lifted off the ground on one side because the top is tilted.
- Would be great to have a safe playground that caters to a variety of ages / capabilities from early walkers to school age kids.
- No sudden drops as my son is a lemming. Although we have used the Taplings Road park a few times generally I go to others simply because they are busier so more other mums and dads to chat to. Maybe clearer signage from Taplings Road would let people know there is a park there as it's fairly hidden.
- Anything that keeps children occupied and off the street – but not too expensive. Despite living here for 14 years I was unaware that there was a playground in Taplings Road. Those with children are probably better informed. Will the ground be locked at night and be protected from vandalism?
- We are very happy to receive this exciting news. We use the park on a regular basis and we are grateful for the park facilities to be upgraded.
- Until now we did not know about the play area at Taplings Road, better signage needed.

## **Feedback from Weeke Weekend Festival**

- Perimeter tidied, and fences renewed for better appearance and safety
- Path through from Rowlings Road end to Taplings Road entrance to allow buggy and wheel chair access
- Low level lighting through the park
- More seating/benches
- Play equipment for all ages – Slide, swings, roundabout, sand pit, equipment for disabled children
- Goal and basketball net
- Better control on dog waste/policing dog owners
- Removal of wire fence at the entrance from Taplings Road, dangerous and not fixed.

Should electrical supplies be required to hold any open-air events then a generator is the only thing available. These can be noisy and cause high levels of pollution. Therefore, whilst all the work is going on could a metered electrical feeder pillar be considered. If this was located at the edge of the playing area about half way down this could be used for such events.